

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 are pending. Applicants' Attorney appreciates the Examiner's telephone message indicating that Claims 1 and 3 are allowable.

Claims 11 and 12 were rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants respectfully disagree with the assessment of Claims 11 and 12; however, Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice, solely to expedite prosecution. Applicants maintain the right to pursue these claims in a related Continuation or Divisional application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Claims 1 and 3 are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call Elizabeth W. Mata at (915) 845-3558 (Mountain time zone). If Elizabeth W. Mata cannot be reached, the Examiner is invited to contact David E. Brook at (978) 341-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

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